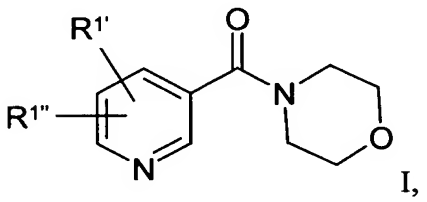
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Original)** Process for the reductive preparation of nicotinaldehydes, characterised in that the starting materials employed for the reduction are the corresponding nicotinic acid morpholinamides.

2. **(Original)** Process according to Claim 1, characterised in that the starting materials employed are nicotinic acid morpholinamides of the formula I



I,

in which

$R^{1'}$, $R^{1''}$ each, independently of one another, denotes H, Hal, A, OA, CH_2R^2 or Ar,

R^2 denotes OA or NA_2,

A denotes unbranched or branched alkyl having 1-10 C atoms, in which one or two CH_2 groups may be replaced by O or S atoms and/or by –CH=CH- groups and/or also 1-7 H atoms may be replaced by F,

Ar denotes an unsaturated, partially or fully saturated, mono- or polycyclic homo- or heterocyclic system with the hetero atoms O, N, S which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by Hal, A, OA, NA_2, NO_2, $NASO_2A$, SO_2NA, SO_2A, and Hal denotes F, Cl, Br or I.

3. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that the starting material employed is 5-(4-fluorophenyl)nicotinic acid morpholinamide.

4. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that the starting material employed is 5-bromopyridine-3-carboxylic acid morpholin-amide.

5. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to Claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to~~ 4, characterised in that the reducing agents employed are $LiAlH(OEt)_3$, $LiAlH_2(OEt)_2$ or $LiAlH_3(OEt)$.

6. **(Original)** Use of nicotinic acid morpholinamides for the reductive preparation of the corresponding nicotinaldehydes.

7. **(Currently Amended)** Use according to Claim 6, where the nicotinic acid morpholinamides conform to the formula I ~~according to Claim 1~~, and the radicals $R^{1'}$ and $R^{1''}$ have the meaning indicated above ~~in Claim 1~~.

8. **(Original)** Starting materials of the formula I according to Claim 1, selected from a group consisting of (a) 5-(4-fluorophenyl)nicotinic acid morpholinamide, (b) 5-bromonicotinic acid morpholinamide.